

Amendments to the Drawings:

Please delete the originally filed Figures 6 and 7.

The attached sheet of drawings replaces the originally filed Figures 6 and 7. This sheet, which includes Figures 6A and 6B, replaces the original sheets including Figures 6 and 7.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

REMARKS

This is in response to the Official Action of August 8, 2006.

The indication of allowability of claims 2-5 and 12-15 in section 17 of the Official Action is acknowledged with appreciation. To simplify the issues, claim 2 has been rewritten in independent form by incorporation of the features thereof into claim 1; claim 3 has been rewritten in independent form; claim 12 has been rewritten in independent form by incorporation of the features thereof into claim 11, and claim 13 has been rewritten in independent form.

The withdrawn status of claims 9 and 18 is noted. It is respectfully submitted that these claims should be allowed as dependent upon allowable independent claims, as noted above and below.

Drawings.

The objection to **Figure 6** is noted. As Figure 6 does not add critical matter, it is cancelled herein by the proposed drawing correction submitted concurrently herewith. Corresponding changes to the specification are made above. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that this objection may be withdrawn.

Abstract.

The objection to the length of the abstract is noted. A shortened abstract is submitted above, and it is respectfully submitted that this objection may be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections—35 USC § 112

Claim 24 stands rejected as indefinite under the second paragraph of 35 USC § 112, it being indicated that the phrase "opposite orientation" is unclear. The objectionable language is cancelled from claim 24 by amendment above, and it is respectfully submitted that this rejection should be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections—35 USC § 102

Claims 1, 6-8, 11, 16, 17 and 20-23 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as anticipated by **Zohlnhofer et al.** as evidenced by **Eberwine et al.** It is respectfully submitted that this rejection is moot in light of the amendments noted above, and respectfully submitted that this rejection should be withdrawn.

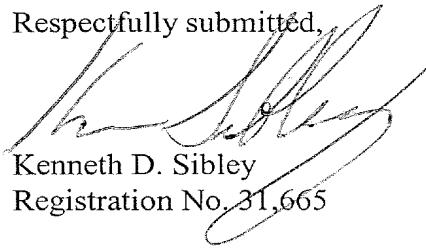
Claims 1, 7, 8, 11, 17 and 20-23 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102(e) as anticipated by **Mueller et al.** as evidenced by **Eberwine et al.** It is respectfully submitted that this rejection is moot in light of the amendments noted above, and respectfully submitted that this rejection should be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections—35 USC § 103

Claims 10, 19 and 24 stand rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as obvious over by **Mueller et al.**, **Weissmen et al.** and **Lasken et al.** It is respectfully submitted that this rejection is moot in light of the amendments noted above, and respectfully submitted that this rejection should be withdrawn.

It is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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